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SUBJECT: Fifth Congress of Hematology

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1. This was a rather massive conference with the usual format of joint and section meetings. Symposia were devoted to a number of topics including the aplasias, physiology of leucocytes, coagulation mechanisms, blood dyscrasias and immunohematology.
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2. [redacted] particularly interested in the papers dealing with leucocyte physiology and more specifically in the reports by H Weicker, Heidelberg, Germany. Weicker calculated maturation and division times for granulopoiesis by comparing the quantities of precursors, number of mitoses, nuclear volumes and estimates of daily cell formation. Minimal granulocyte maturation time was estimated to be four days.
3. A paper on the regulation of blood formation by the nervous system was read by (Dr.) Bergassarov (Moscow). This consisted of a descriptive survey of research in his laboratory; data was not presented. It was stated that many blood dyscrasias are a result of nervous system involvement. This point of emphasis extends to other areas as was noted by one [redacted] scientific colleagues at the International Cancer Congress in Sao Paulo, Brazil, 23-29 Jul 54 / [redacted] paragraph 14/. 25X1X6
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4. This Soviet theme ties in with an old [1945 or 46] theory that cutting off the nerves to the lungs will cut edema. [redacted] did an experiment on dogs in 1946 to test this theory. [redacted] cut the nerves to the lungs and gassed them, but couldn't substantiate the Soviet theory. It seems [redacted] that the Soviets would like to make political capital of their theory, i.e., that persons who follow the Party line and live under Communism have no nerve disturbances and thus, no cancers, etc.
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[On file in the CIA Library is the program of the Fifth Congress of Hematology, Paris, France, 6-12 Sep 54.]

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